

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INCREASING NETWORK  
CAPACITY IN AN OPTICAL NETWORK

ABSTRACT

An optical network includes an optical ring operable to communicate optical traffic and a plurality of nodes coupled to the optical ring. Each node is operable to passively add and drop one or more traffic streams to and from the optical ring. Each traffic stream comprises at least one channel. The plurality of nodes comprise a hub node operable to selectively pass or terminate a plurality of individual sub-bands of the optical traffic and a plurality of sub-band nodes each operable to terminate a respective sub-band of the optical traffic.